

NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue Part-Time Peer Counselor Level II Position

The **OnTrackNY Program** is an innovative treatment program at **Bellevue Hospital Center**.

The program serves adolescents and young adults who are within two years of experiencing the onset of non-affective psychosis. The Peer Specialist will work .5 FTE as part of an OnTrackNY team with program participants, family members, and all other team members. The Peer Specialist serves a unique role on the team. By drawing on his or her own lived experience of overcoming challenges with mental illness, the Peer Specialist can instill hope in clients and families. Walking alongside clients on their recovery journeys, the Peer Specialist is an ally, mentor, and advocate for young people as they contend with the difficulties and uncertainties of early psychosis. The Peer Specialist uses his or her lived experience to contribute to treatment planning for each participant, keeping “youth-friendliness” at the forefront of the team’s philosophy, and facilitating the team’s development and maintenance of a culture of respect. The Peer Specialist can provide an essential framework for highlighting the potential that each client has for achieving a successful recovery trajectory. In addition to attending team meetings, peer specialists often work directly with other team members to provide support and assistance to program participants. Under the supervision of the OnTrackNY Team Leader, they provide direct peer support services to program participants in any setting that would be helpful – at the OnTrackNY program site, in the community, or in the hospital.

Job Description

Grant Funded Program

1. Enhance initial outreach, engage and retention efforts to help participants and families stay connected to the program
2. Provide concrete and social support to clients and families through case management. Helping to support participant's effort towards returning to school or work
3. Helping individuals understand psychosis and develop and practice skills help with illness management
4. Aiding participants and families as they transition from OnTrackNY services
5. Other tasks, as needed and assigned.

Minimum Qualifications

Assignment Level I

1. A four-year high school diploma or its educational equivalent; and
2. Satisfactory and documented completion of a formalized peer counselor/specialist training program which meets the training requirements for a Peer Advocacy Organization as mandated by the State of New York Office of Mental Health in their Official Policy Manual. The training program must be at least six months in duration; or

3. One year of full-time satisfactory experience working with consumers of mental health services as a peer counselor/specialist, peer advocate or in a related human services area.

Assignment Level II

In addition to meeting the qualification requirements of Assignment Level I, assignment to Level II requires: One additional year of experience as described in three (3) above.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to

Caitlin Graziano, LCSW, Team Leader: caitlin.graziano@nychhc.org

Please also apply online at <https://employment.nychhc.org/careers.html> Job ID **40351**